

#3
2171

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on
Date: 5/7/02
Name: Yukari Takigawa
Signature: *Yukari Takigawa*
Clifford Chance Rogers & Wells LLP

Docket No. 6514-7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATION

RECEIVED

MAY 23 2002

Technology Center 2100

In re Application of: Kazutoyo MAEHIRO

Serial No. : 09/820,554 Group Art Unit : 2171
Filed : March 29, 2001 Examiner : Unknown
For : Membership Information Retrieval Server, User Terminal,
Message-Sending Terminal, and Method for Retrieving
Membership Information and for Sending Message

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND
STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE**

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") in accordance with its duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98. This IDS is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), before issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Also attached are copies of the cited references, together with a listing thereof on Form PTO-1449. Applicant respectfully solicits the Examiner's consideration of the cited references and entry into the record of this application.

Each reference in a foreign language includes an English-language Abstract, and for one foreign language reference, Applicant provides a translation of selected portions of the

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant: Kazutoyo MAEHIRO.
Serial No.: 09/820,554
Page - 2 -

specification (including translations of text associated with selected figures). It is believed that the Abstracts and the partial translations fulfill the requirement of a concise explanation of the relevance thereof.

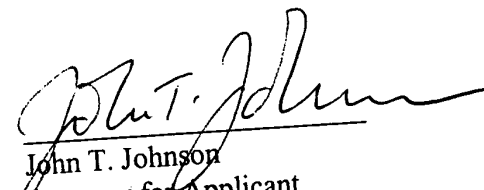
This IDS is being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97-1.98, but the citation of references should not be construed as an admission that such references are necessarily relevant or are prior art. No representation is intended that the cited references represent the results of a search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search for prior art, consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.104 and, in the course of such search, will review for relevance each and every reference cited on the attached Form PTO-1449.

This IDS has been submitted prior to the receipt of a first Office Action in this application. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is due. In the event that a first Office Action was mailed on or before the date of submission of this disclosure statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0521. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 7, 2002

MAILING ADDRESS
CLIFFORD CHANCE
ROGERS & WELLS LLP
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10166-0153
(212) 878-8162


John T. Johnson
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 37,363